



OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

8 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CT 06066
Tel: (860) 870-3699
Fax: (860) 870-3584

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WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY Regular Meeting Minutes May 25, 2017

Attendees: Chairman E. Ray Weaver, John Anderson, Andrew Tedford and Ralph Zahner. Also present, Robert I. Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; Dj Lupacchino, Collection System Foreman; John Ward, Town Administrator; Jim Luddecke, Finance Officer; Matt Daskal, Financial Analyst, Water Pollution Control; and Rod Szwelicki, VHB

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Grasis asked to add Agenda Item #11- Utility Billing discussion and motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH THE TOWN COUNCIL AND THE WPCA SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON APRIL 29, 2017

Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting with the Vernon Town Council held on April 29, 2017 as presented. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (4-0-0). Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the Special WPCA Meeting held on April 29, 2017 as presented. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

UPDATE ON TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

Town Administrator John Ward explained that the purpose of the Design-Build Committee is to represent all interests involved and to oversee the facilities plan. He said the committee members are himself, Chairman Weaver, Mr. Grasis, Mr. Boske, Robert Kleinhans, Bob Smith, and Jim Luddecke; the expertise of the committee members is needed. The Town is involved at this stage of the upgrade because the cost may be between approximately \$80- \$92 million dollars he said. Mr. Ward explained the timeline relative to bonding, the facilities plan and the design phase. Chairman Weaver asked what role does/will the WPCA have? Mr. Ward said that the expertise of the WPCA, such as Chairman Weaver, Mr. Grasis, Mr. Boske, and the treatment facility employees, is needed. He sees the WPCA being involved conceptually, overseeing the upgrade, and to some degree, during construction. A discussion took place regarding the responsibilities of the WPCA and the Design-Build Committee as well as the authorization/approval of change orders. Mr. Anderson expressed concern about where the responsibility will lie regarding the upgrade. Mr. Ward said that there has to be a voice for the expertise and a voice for the accountability.

REVIEW OF SEWER USER ACCOUNTS #5629, #3531 AND #2758 FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEWER USAGE TAX SALE EXTINGUISHMENT

Mr. Daskal provided additional details on this item. He updated the Authority on current processes regarding tax sales as well as collection enforcement procedures. A discussion took place relative to tax sales. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority hereby releases as unrecoverable sewer use fee for the properties: Property #5629 and Property #3531 for balances prior to the April 15, 2016 billing based upon the August 2015 Town of Vernon municipal property tax sale; and for Property #2758 accepts \$202.45 in consideration and settlement for all balances prior to the April 15, 2015 billing, based upon the August 2014 Town of Vernon municipal property tax sale. Mr. Anderson asked to see the process regarding the handling of future tax sales once the details are worked out between Mr. Daskal and Attorney Cohen. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske reported that the plant is meeting all of its operational criteria. Mr. Boske informed the Authority that: the #2 screw pump's lower bearing and ring will be investigated due to noise issues; all four sand filters are now operational; the #2 blower is now running without any issues; an unused scum pump from the primary thickener building was modified to fit and be used as a waste pump; and the soda ash lines were plugged but have since been excavated and a new line has been installed. Mr. Grasis said that the camera truck delivery date is June 5th; a meeting is scheduled next week with the Health Department and FOG coordinator Gary Leavitt regarding non-compliant restaurants; the custodial bid for the treatment facility was awarded to Admiral Cleaning of South Windsor; Talcottville Mill has finished cleaning and lining its lateral; South Street manhole work was completed; the Woodland Place subdivision are all duplexes on the ten lots; trees were removed at both the Warren Avenue and Phoenix Street stations; and a lateral is proposed at 209 South Street by Santini Homes for future development.

KINGSBURY AVENUE SEWER LINE REPAIR

Mr. Grasis presented three quotes for the repair and provided details on this item. Mr. Lupacchino answered questions from the Authority. Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control accepts the contract for the Kingsbury Avenue sewer line repair by Correia Excavators Incorporated for the cost of \$7,750. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

DISCUSSION OF TRAIL RUN DEVELOPMENT – 243/253 TALCOTTVILLE ROAD

Mr. Grasis provided background information for this project and details for a proposed easement on top of the existing easement. Mr. Grasis and Mr. Szwelicki answered questions from the Authority relative to the easement and the installation of the manhole. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority approves the proposed sewer connection for the Trail Run Development located at 243 and 253 Talcottville Road in Vernon, CT into the existing sanitary manhole (SMH EX-2) on Talcottville Road as shown as in the Sewer Utility Connection Sketch dated September 21, 2016 by VHB, Inc. The developer agrees as a condition of this approval to install a new sanitary manhole at the bend in the 8" diameter PVC sewer pipe between existing sewer manhole 2 (SMH EX-2) and existing sewer manhole 3 (SMH EX-3) as shown on the above referenced plan, provided the Water Pollution Control Authority obtains an easement for construction of the manhole from the underlying land owner (property MBL 10-0004-0008D). In the event that the WPCA is unable to secure the referenced easement, the developer will not be held responsible to construct the referenced manhole and the approval for the sewer connection will remain intact. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

APPROVAL OF INVOICE FROM DESELL CONSTRUCTION FOR ROUTE 83 MANHOLE RESETS

Mr. Grasis said that 21 manhole frames and covers were adjusted in conjunction with the repaving of Route 83. Mr. Zahner, seconded by Mr. Tedford made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority asks to waive the bid requirements and approves the manhole frames and covers work on Route 83 from Desell Construction LLC, Southington, CT in accordance with their invoice dated May 22, 2017 in the amount of \$18, 825.00 and funds for said purpose will come from the sewer connection account. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

DISCUSSION OF MANHOLE RESETS REGARDING ROAD BOND WORK

Mr. Grasis said that sewer manhole resets were never included in the road bond that began in 2014, and to date, approximately \$242,000 has been spent on these resets. He wanted to make the Authority aware of this expenditure which has been paid through the sewer connection account. Mr. Grasis said that he made it clear to Administration that sewer manhole resets should be included in future road bonds.

UTILITY BILLING REPLACEMENT

Mr. Luddecke and Mr. Daskal provided information on this item and answered questions from the Authority. The annual expense against the Water Pollution Control budget will be \$6,090 and the initial \$60,900 will come from the Sewer User account and will be amortized over ten years. Mr. Grasis said that approximately \$32,000 was budgeted for this item. Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion the Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Authority resolves that it is in the best interest to waive the bid requirements for the replacement of utility billing related software, and enter into a contract with Tyler Technologies, as provided in Quote#: 2015-11993 dated March 14, 2017. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

ADJOURN

As an information item, Mr. Grasis spoke to a memo from Ivonne Hall, CT DEEP, regarding the Vernon WPCF NPDES Permit. A discussion took place regarding a public hearing for the treatment facility upgrade. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa B. Yost
Secretary, Water Pollution Control